(e) the details of steps proposed to improve the system of selection of sports person?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) The selection of sports persons for participation in national games and sports events is done by the State Level Sports Federations/Associations of the concerned sports and 'Sports' being in 'State List' of the constitution, the Central Government has no role in this regard.

(e) The Selection of National teams is done by the concerned National Sports Federations. However, the Government has appointed Observers for various sports disciplines who are required to be present at the selection and given a report to this Ministry as to whether transparent and fair process of selection has been followed.

Permission for alt Punjab Games

†3273. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that "All Punjab Games" were held in the State of Punjab between the Punjab State in our country and Punjab province of Pakistan;

(b) whether the State Government of Punjab had sought any permission from the Central Government or any pre-information was given therefor;

(c) if so, whether permission for such kind of sports meet between States can be given; and

(d) if not, whether the Central Government have made any enquiry from the State Government of Punjab?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) to (d) The Government of India had received a proposal from the Government of Punjab in September, 2004 seeking financial assistance for holding the First East-West Punjab Games at Patiala from 5th to 11th December, 2004. The Games were organized

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

as a follow up of an MOU signed between Punjab Olympic Association (India) and its counterpart in Pakistan. The Government has approved financial assistance up to Rs. 5.00 crores for these games.

Non- Utilisation of Funds by National Sports Federations

†3274. SHRIMATI KUM KUM RAI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Sports Federations do not utilise the financial assistance given by Government in a appropriate way; and

(b) the details regarding modes adopted by these sports federations for utilising the fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN): (a) There have been some complaints about mis-appropriation of Government grants by the National Sports Federations (NSFs). Any complaint against any NSF about mis-utilization of funds etc. is processed promptly after ascertaining the comments of the concerned NSF.

(b) To ensure proper utilization of Government assistance, Utilization Certificate, Statement of Accounts duly audited by the Chartered Accountants are received from the NSFs and further assistance is released only on receipt of these documents. Further, this Ministry has issued sanction for audit of NSFs getting assistance exceeding Rs. one crore in a year throught Comptroller & Auditor General of India.

Lack of Communication by SAI

3275. SHRI DARA SINGH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether due to reported mismanagement and lack of communication by Sports Authority of India (SAI), the Indian fencing team being denied entry in the Asian Fencing Championship, to be held in Malaysia in July 2005;

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† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.